

**CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Presented) A method for automatically managing an electronic mail server application on a host computer, comprising:
  - checking an electronic mail message against a predetermined criteria;
  - determining whether the message has been previously compressed;
  - compacting a non-attachment portion of the electronic mail message if the predetermined criteria is satisfied and if the message has not been previously compressed; and
  - storing the compacted electronic mail message.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the checking is performed when the electronic mail message is received by the electronic mail server application.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the checking is performed periodically on the host computer.

Claims 4.-5. (Canceled).

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined criteria comprises a total message size.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined criteria comprises an attachment size.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined criteria comprises an attachment type.

Claims 9.-14. (Canceled).

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising compressing the attachment.

Claims 16.-20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously Presented) A method for managing a user's electronic mailbox on a computer, comprising:

    performing an off-peak hours routine for checking an electronic mail message against a predetermined criteria;

    determining if the electronic mail message has been previously compressed;

    compressing a non-attachment portion of the electronic mail message if the predetermined criteria is satisfied, wherein compressing the electronic mail message is performed by searching for repeated patterns in the electronic mail message and encoding those patterns; and

    storing the compressed electronic mail message.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the checking is performed when the electronic mail message is received by the electronic mailbox.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the checking is performed upon request by the user.

Claims 24.-25. (Canceled).

26. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the predetermined criteria comprises a total message size.
27. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the predetermined criteria comprises an attachment size.
28. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the predetermined criteria comprises an attachment type.
29. (Canceled).
30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the location of the searching of the message is on a server.
31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the location of the searching of the message is on a client.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the location of the searching of the message is configured by a user.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the searching is performed periodically on the computer.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the electronic mail message is compressed into a zipped file.
35. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium with logic embedded therein for executing on a computer for managing a electronic mailbox on a computer comprising:
  - logic configured to perform an off-peak hours routine to screen an electronic mail message against a predetermined criteria;
  - logic configured to determine if the message has been previously compressed;
  - logic configured to, if the predetermined criteria is satisfied, compress the electronic mail message by finding repeated patterns in the message and encoding those patterns; and
  - logic for storing the compressed electronic mail message.
36. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 35, further comprising logic configured to screen when the electronic mail message is received by the electronic mailbox.
37. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 35, further comprising logic configured to screen upon request by the user.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 35, further comprising logic configured to screen periodically.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 35, wherein the predetermined criteria comprises a total message size.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 35, wherein the predetermined criteria comprises an attachment size.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 35, wherein the predetermined criteria comprises an attachment type.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 35, wherein the electronic mail message is compressed into a zipped file.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising decompacting the compacted electronic mail message for retrieval.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising decompressing the compressed electronic mail message for retrieval.

45. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 35, further comprising logic for decompressing the compressed electronic mail message for retrieval.